(*b*) if so, with which company they have insured them and in whose name;

(*c*) what is the total amount paid in 1118 and 1119 on insurance of food grains: and

(*d*) whether any other Government or Native States have insured their food grains as this State has done?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar (*Director of Food Supplies*):

(*a*) Food grains carried by steamers were being insured against marine risks. But the practice has recently been discontinued.

(*b*) The insurance is effected by the Shippers with various companies.

(*c*) Figures will be collected.

(*d*) Yes.

Purchase of local paddy.

161. *** Mr. K. C. Chandy** (*Thodupuzha cum Meenachil*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the general principle on which the purchase of local paddy is declared to be made, has been modified since the date of the Press Note dated 1st September 1943; and

(*b*) if so, what were (i) the reasons which induced Government to make the modification; and

(ii) the modifications introduced?

Mr. K. R. Narayana Aiyar: (*a*) No.

(*b*) (i) and (ii) Do not arise in view of the answer to part (a).

Purchase of paddy from land holders.

162. ***Mr. K. C. Chandy**: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have issued any directions to Purchasing Officers that paddy as per the Settlement Pattom must be purchased from every field irrespective of any consideration whether the land holder or the cultivator has any excess after meeting his minimum requirements for his bonafide domestic consumption;

(*b*) whether they are aware that Purchasing Officers are making purchase of paddy as indicated in part (a) above;

(*c*) whether they have received representations pointing out the inequity of such a system of purchase and what action they have taken on the same;

(*d*) whether the Purchasing Officers are not allowing the cultivators of large paddy fields to retain the quantity of paddy needed for their annual domestic consumption; and

(*e*) whether it is their policy to make a discrimination in favour of owners and cultivators of large areas of paddy fields?

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